

SIMS HERE FOR DATA

Seeks to Establish Date Hepburn Bill Was Enacted.

FIXES FATE OF OIL CASES

President's Testimony in Regard to Point Raised by Attorney for Rockefeller Institution May Be Taken—Conference to Be Held at Department of Justice To-day.

District Attorney Sims and his assistant, James H. Wilkerson, arrived in Washington last night to confer with the new Attorney General, Charles J. Bonaparte, on the Standard Oil indictments now before Judge Landis in Chicago.

They are here primarily to get every fact connected with the final enactment of the Hepburn bill into the interstate commerce act. On the information they secure and the proof they take back with them to Chicago will depend the fate of all the indictments against the Rockefeller corporation and scores of other cases against the New York Central, Delaware, Lackawanna and Western, the Western Transit Company, and the American Sugar and Refining Company.

They must establish that the interstate commerce act was not officially approved at a time antedating the passage of the joint resolution postponing the enforcement of the act until August 28. It is to get this data first hand that Messrs. Sims and Wilkerson are here, and it is possible they may take the testimony of President Roosevelt to get a complete record.

President Might Testify.

This will be done if it is thought absolutely essential for the success of the prosecution, and it is known that such is the President's interest in the success of the cases that he would even consent to go to Chicago to testify.

This question will be discussed at the conference between the Chicago attorneys, Mr. Bonaparte, Mr. Moody, and the others of the Department of Justice to-day. Neither Mr. Sims, who arrived at midnight, nor Mr. Wilkerson, who preceded him here a few hours, would say a word about the case.

In his comment on the case, Judge Landis suggested that certain facts in reference to the time President Roosevelt approved the rate bill and the time that he approved the joint resolution of the House and Senate fixing the date of its enforcement sixty days later might have an important bearing on the ruling he would make on the demurrer raised by John S. Miller for the Standard Oil Company.

Are Not Worried.

This remark of the court was taken to mean by many that he would sustain the demurrer, but the Department of Justice is not worried as to the stand Judge Landis will take. It is the contention of the government that the rate law did not go into effect until it was sent to the Department of State to be enrolled in the archives, and that the message of transmittal from the President to the Secretary of State constitutes the formal approval of the bill, and not the mere act of signing the engrossed copy of the interstate commerce law.

The records show the new rate law and the joint resolution were sent to the Department of State at the same time; that the rate law was signed on June 29 and the joint resolution received the signature of the President June 30. On the message of transmittal the rate law is mentioned first, and the joint resolution follows immediately afterwards.

The point at issue is a clear one, and should it go against the government, it would be a harder set back to the prosecution than the decision of Judge Humphrey in the previous cases. In all probability, Mr. Bonaparte, who takes Mr. Moody's place to-day, will be called upon to go to Chicago in person to assist in the handling of the Standard cases and present additional argument for the upholding of the demurrer raised by Attorney Miller.

LABORERS ACT AS CADDIES.

Rockefeller Lets Lads Go to School While Men Carry His Clubs.

Tarrytown, N. Y., Dec. 16.—Neighbors of John D. Rockefeller at his home at Pocantico Hills have been surprised of late, while walking across his golf links, to find the Standard Oil king playing with workmen in overalls as caddies.

An investigation reveals the fact that Mr. Rockefeller has dropped all of his caddy boys for the winter, so that they may attend the village school, and is utilizing the Italian workmen employed on his big estate instead. The Italians have been very quick to pick up the game, and when the Standard Oil millionaire has no other companion he sometimes plays against them.

The laborers, although they speak little or no English, seem to enjoy the sport as much as their employer, and they are always eager to try their skill against him.

SCORES CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS.

London Minister Denounces Observance of the Present Age.

London, Dec. 16.—The Rev. A. M. Mitchell, vicar of Lancashire, who recently opposed the action of Rev. Mr. Goodchild, of New York, who gave performances in his church as counter-attractions to the Sunday theatrical performances, now scores the popular observance of Christmas. He says:

"Gorge and guff make Christmas to a majority. The spiritual aspect of the individual is conveniently and unblushingly ignored in favor of worship at the kitchen altar. The kitchen altar is the sacred shrine of Christmas."

"What number of knees bow low before it which are too stiff to bend before God and the altar of love."

BONDSMAN GOES BANKRUPT.

University of Illinois Only Creditor of Fred W. Norwood.

Chicago, Dec. 16.—Ruined, he says, by the embezzlements of Charles W. Spaulding, former treasurer of the University of Illinois and head of the Globe Savings Bank here, Fred W. Norwood, one of the best-known life insurance men in Chicago, has filed a petition in bankruptcy, scheduling liabilities of \$231,367.98, and assets of only \$20.

Norwood says his only creditor is the university. The claim against him is based on the fact that he was on Spaulding's bond as treasurer. Spaulding served a penitentiary term for his embezzlements.

Killed Over Card Game.

Chicago, Dec. 16.—A. G. Andrews, a railroad switchman, was shot and instantly killed to-night over a card game by James Coney. Andrews and Coney were partners, but, offended by one of the latter's plays, Andrews slapped him. The shooting followed. Coney escaped.

SAYS HE WHIPPED A COUNT.

Frenchman's Story Denied by Nobleman, Who Has Different Version.

Paris, Dec. 16.—Count de Rodolphe du Porzic and M. Alexander Greger met yesterday while riding in the Bois de Boulogne, for the first time since the latter accused the count of stealing, while a guest at his home, a blue diamond ring from his wife.

The accounts of what happened differ. M. Greger says that he horsewhipped the count until he was tired, and that the count rode away in a side alley.

The count's version is that M. Greger tried to stampede his blooded horse by twisting his whip. The horse took fright and ran. When the count got him under control again and returned to the place of meeting, M. Greger had disappeared. Greger was formerly secretary at the Russian Embassy at Washington and Rio de Janeiro.

GIRL ACCUSES EXECUTORS.

Charges They Induced Lawyer Falsely to Represent Her.

Chicago, Dec. 16.—Edward A. Warfield, George T. Cline, and Aquilla R. Yeagley, of Baltimore, executors of the \$3,000,000 estate left by the late Col. George T. Cline, of Englewood, a Chicago suburb, have been summoned before Probate Judge Cutting to explain why they should not be punished for contempt of court.

The action is the result of a suit by fourteen-year-old Walleeta Yeagley, of Lincoln, Ill., to establish title to a share in the site of the Steel Corporation. Her guardian asserts that the three executors, acting through Frank Leesch, president of the Chicago Bar Association, and attorney for the Pennsylvania Railroad, induced Attorney F. X. Marx to represent himself falsely as Walleeta's lawyer and agree, in her name, to the sale of the Gary townsite, a part of the Cline state, to the steel trust.

READY FOR INSURANCE COUNT

Supt. Otto Kelsey Names Election Inspectors To-day.

Canvassers Also to Watch Ballots for Equitable and Mutual Reserve. Burnham Sure of Election.

New York, Dec. 16.—State Superintendent of Insurance Otto Kelsey, who is in town to personally look after the counting of the votes in the Mutual and New York Life Insurance companies when the polls close on Tuesday, spent the greater part of to-day in going over a list of applicants he has for the places of inspectors of elections. Mr. Kelsey will appoint five inspectors to represent him in each company. He will also name a large number of canvassers, but the real responsibility will rest upon the inspectors.

Although the greatest work is in the Mutual and New York Life, where there are strong contests, Supt. Kelsey will have to name inspectors and canvassers to perform the perfunctory duty of counting the vote in the Equitable, Mutual Reserve, and Security Mutual, of Binghamton, N. Y. There are no contests here, no opposition tickets having been put in the field, and proxies sufficient have been obtained to insure the election of the administration tickets named.

Considerable comment has been made in life insurance circles during the last few days over the fact that the administration ticket in the Mutual Reserve will be elected. The trustees are George Burnham, president; Frederick A. Burnham and Eldridge are awaiting trial on the same charge as that of which George Burnham, Jr., was found guilty. Supt. Kelsey expects to see the case in court.

The offices of the international policy holders' committee, which organization is fighting both the Mutual and New York Life administrations, were open until late to-night.

HICKORY SWITCH OUT OF DATE.

Throw It Away and Buy a Mechanical Spanker.

Chicago, Dec. 16.—A mechanical spanker will be one of the features of the January electrical show at the Coliseum.

The device is the invention of President Charles E. Gregory, of the Guarantee Electric Company, who deemed it timely in view of recent controversies concerning the wisdom of restoring corporal punishment in the Chicago schools. It is something like an inverted electric fan, and will operate on a dummy at the exposition.

The spanker is a joke, but Mr. Gregory's electric cradle rocker, to be shown at the same exposition, is intended for real use. By this invention the fond father turns on the current when the baby yells at 2 a. m., and a soothing motion is immediately imparted to the crib.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS BARRED.

Pennsylvania Railroad Prohibits the Acceptance by Employees.

Pittsburg, Dec. 16.—Officials and employees of the Pennsylvania Railroad and its subsidiary companies have been notified that they will not be permitted to accept Christmas presents this year. Heretofore it has been the custom of the large shippers to make Christmas gifts to certain employees. The Christmas presents ranged from boxes of cigars to checks as high as \$1,000, according to the prominence of the recipient and returns expected.

SECOND VISIT SUCCESSFUL.

Safeblowers Get Contents of Vault in New York Village.

Rochester, N. Y., Dec. 16.—Yegmen made a \$4,000 clean-up at Shortsville, Ontario County, when they blew open the safe in G. B. Mathers' bank and got away with the entire contents of the safe.

The job was the sequel to an attempt made five weeks ago, when the robbers were frightened away before getting anything.

NO-KALON

PHONE WINE CO. 614

M 998-14TH ST.

Special Christmas Case.

12 Quarts Choice

12 Quarts Choice

12 Quarts Choice

12 Quarts Choice

12 Quarts Choice

12 Quarts Choice

12 Quarts Choice

12 Quarts Choice

12 Quarts Choice

12 Quarts Choice

12 Quarts Choice

12 Quarts Choice

12 Quarts Choice

12 Quarts Choice

12 Quarts Choice

12 Quarts Choice

12 Quarts Choice

12 Quarts Choice

12 Quarts Choice

12 Quarts Choice

SAVED BY LIFE NETS

Woman Guests Have Narrow Escape in a Hotel Fire.

ONE IS BURNED TO DEATH

Twenty-seven Persons in Burlington (Vt.) Structure When Alarm Is Given, and All Flee in Night Clothes—Whole Business Section Is Threatened for a Time.

Burlington, Vt., Dec. 15.—In the destruction by fire early to-day of the American Hotel in this city one woman was burned to death and twenty-seven other persons narrowly escaped a like fate, being carried down ladders and having to jump into life nets when the rapid spread of the flames drove them to the upper floors for safety.

The dead woman is Mrs. Frank H. Conrad, of this city, and her body is still in the ruins. Of the others in the hotel at the time of the fire several were slightly burned, but none was seriously hurt.

It was shortly after 5 o'clock when the proprietor of the hotel was awakened by smoke in his room. He jumped out of bed and made his way to the office and rang the automatic fire alarms in the halls. By this time the entire lower floor was ablaze, and he retreated into the street below.

When the firemen arrived the upper windows were filled with white-robed men and women shrieking with terror, and only prompt action kept many of them from sacrificing their lives by jumping to the street below.

The firemen by means of extension and scaling ladders got twenty-four of the inmates to the street, and were congratulating themselves that all had been saved when three women made an appearance at a window. It was impossible to use the ladders, as the walls were by that time rocking, and the life net was damaged. The women jumped and were caught safely.

Mrs. Conrad was not missed until the walls fell in, and is believed to have been burned to death in her bed. The fire spread to adjacent property, and the whole business section was threatened.

HOTEL ON WHEELS KEPT OPEN.

Famous Inn Not Closed in 200 Years of Its Career.

Somerville, Dec. 16.—The Somerset Hotel, one of the oldest and most famous hostels in New Jersey, which is credited with doing business for nearly 200 years without closing its doors, has fully sustained its reputation in this during the week, by continuing to do business while it was raised from its foundation and moved a hundred feet up the street.

The process of running the hotel while it was elevated in the air on stilts was unique. Col. Bill Early, the proprietor, threw a gang plank from the bar-room door to the street, and the liquid refreshment end of his business never slackened for an hour, despite the fact that it was considered dangerous to walk the plank under all conditions.

One hundred years ago this ancient inn was famous as a half-way house on the old York road, between New York City and Easton, Pa., and was known to travelers as the "Stage House." It was a noted gathering place for politicians and statesmen, and has been the scene of many historical battles.

GOULDS STILL WHOOPING.

Boys Go Clay Pigeon Shooting, but Have Little Success.

Lakewood, N. J., Dec. 16.—They are still whooping at the George J. Gould country estate here. The entire family, with the exception of Mr. Gould, are all victims of an old-fashioned whooping cough.

Carlos Espino, a sophomore at Columbia, and a class chum of Kingdon Gould, also has the whooping cough.

Kingdon and Jay Gould and Espino are acutely feared between Bulgaria and Turkey, and a rupture will occur unless the great powers step in quickly.

An Austrian firm has just completed a large order of field guns for Bulgaria, and Prince Ferdinand is also building up a considerable reserve of small arms and small arms ammunition. On the other hand, the Turkish arsenal, now under supervision of either Germans or Englishmen, are turning out more ammunition than has been the case for twenty years.

BULGARIA AND TURKEY ARM.

Rapture and Clash Expected Unless Powers Step in Promptly.

Constantinople, Dec. 16.—Trouble is acutely feared between Bulgaria and Turkey, and a rupture will occur unless the great powers step in quickly.

An Austrian firm has just completed a large order of field guns for Bulgaria, and Prince Ferdinand is also building up a considerable reserve of small arms and small arms ammunition. On the other hand, the Turkish arsenal, now under supervision of either Germans or Englishmen, are turning out more ammunition than has been the case for twenty years.

CONFEDERATES GET PENSION.

Veterans and Widows Call for Their Allowance from the State.

Salisbury, N. C., Dec. 16.—One hundred and fifty-five Confederate soldiers, widows, and those entitled to pensions received their money this week from the State government. Of the first class, receiving \$60, there were two; the second, entitled to \$45, has five; the third, \$35, has fourteen claimants; the fourth, \$18, has 124, and there are 106 widows entitled to \$18 each, while six totally blind receive \$30 each.

AGED 105, SHE ASKS DIVORCE.

Mrs. Hunt Says Her Third Husband Was Cruel to Her.

Salina, Kans., Dec. 16.—Martha Hunt, aged 105 years, yesterday filed suit for divorce against her third husband, fifteen years her junior, on the ground of extreme cruelty.

She asserted that she drove her husband from home in 1888 because of his cruelty to her.

BURNING STEAMER IS SUNK.

Hull Allowed to Fill with Water to Put Out the Flames.

Kingston, N. Y., Dec. 16.—Fire this morning broke out in the forward end of the boiler-room of the side-wheel steamer Norwich, of the Cornell Towing Line, while at a dock here, and considerable damage was done to her before the flames were extinguished. The rear dock was opened and her hull was allowed to fill with water, and she sank at her dock.

WANT NEW JURY SYSTEM.

State's Attorneys of Illinois Will Ask Legislature to Make Changes.

Chicago, Dec. 16.—The correction of capital defects in the Illinois jury system is to be urged by the State's attorneys at the next session of the legislature.

The legislature will also be asked to make jury judges only of fact, leaving the judge to decide problems of law; to allow appeals in habeas corpus cases and decisions to quash indictments, and permitting the correction of faulty indictments.

Oceana Steamships.

New York, N. Y., Dec. 16.—Arrived, Sunday, December 16: Steamship Minneapolis from London, December 15; St. Andrew from Antwerp, December 15; Hannover from Bremen, December 15.

The Gift of Gifts for Christmas



The Pianola Piano

The Piano that the whole family can play and will enjoy.

SANDERS & STAYMAN CO., 1327 F Street N. W.

PERCY S. FOSTER, Manager.

TRIBUTE TO DEAD STUDENTS.

Memorial Services at Cornell for Victims of Fraternity Fire.

Ithaca, N. Y., Dec. 16.—Cornell University paid its official tribute this morning to the four men undergraduates who perished in the Chi Psi fire by a memorial service in Sage Chapel.

The service included three appropriate hymns, a memorial reading by Dean Thomas Frederick Crane, of the university faculty, and an address by the Rev. Lewis Cameron, archdeacon of South Orange, and family pastor of Frederick Grellie, who lost his life in the fire.

WOULD NOW AMEND THE CONSTITUTION

Continued from First Page.

"I believe there is enough of wisdom and patriotism and justice in the American people, enough pride in their past, interest in the present, and hope of the future, to protect us against any possible danger that the Constitution might be impaired by the adoption of an amendment. It requires three-fourths of the States, either through convention or through State legislation, to ratify any amendment to the Constitution. I cannot believe that any amendment not deserving ratification, any amendment which really would not be an improvement, an enlargement, a perfecting, of the Constitution would meet with the approval of legislatures or conventions in three-fourths of the States of this Union."

BULGARIA AND TURKEY ARM.

Rapture and Clash Expected Unless Powers Step in Promptly.

Constantinople, Dec. 16.—Trouble is acutely feared between Bulgaria and Turkey, and a rupture will occur unless the great powers step in quickly.

An Austrian firm has just completed a large order of field guns for Bulgaria, and Prince Ferdinand is also building up a considerable reserve of small arms and small arms ammunition. On the other hand, the Turkish arsenal, now under supervision of either Germans or Englishmen, are turning out more ammunition than has been the case for twenty years.

WOULD BE HELD IN WASHINGTON.

If the constitutional convention should be finally decided upon, it would, of course, be held in Washington.

In the opinion of Representative De Armond, it would be composed, in part at least, of the ablest men in the land. "It would be," he says, "a very great body of American statesmen and citizens. In his judgment, also, the assembling of such a convention, and the preliminary discussions leading up to it, would be productive of much good in legislation in Congress and in the several State legislatures."

WISER LAWS HIS AIM.

Head of Legislative Reference Body Has Poor Opinion of Lawmakers.

Chicago, Dec. 16.—"Ten per cent of the legislators of this country are willing to be bribed, and half of them don't know for what purpose they were elected," Charles McCarthy, of Madison, Wis., told the City Club, of Chicago.

Mr. McCarthy is head of the legislative reference department of Wisconsin, a bureau created to advise wise laws. He is to propose the adoption of his method by the next Illinois assembly.

BURNING STEAMER IS SUNK.

Hull Allowed to Fill with Water to Put Out the Flames.

Kingston, N. Y., Dec. 16.—Fire this morning broke out in the forward end of the boiler-room of the side-wheel steamer Norwich, of the Cornell Towing Line, while at a dock here, and considerable damage was done to her before the flames were extinguished. The rear dock was opened and her hull was allowed to fill with water, and she sank at her dock.

WANT NEW JURY SYSTEM.

State's Attorneys of Illinois Will Ask Legislature to Make Changes.

Chicago, Dec. 16.—The correction of capital defects in the Illinois jury system is to be urged by the State's attorneys at the next session of the legislature.

The legislature will also be asked to make jury judges only of fact, leaving the judge to decide problems of law; to allow appeals in habeas corpus cases and decisions to quash indictments, and permitting the correction of faulty indictments.

Oceana Steamships.

New York, N. Y., Dec. 16.—Arrived, Sunday, December 16: Steamship Minneapolis from London, December 15; St. Andrew from Antwerp, December 15; Hannover from Bremen, December 15.

WOULD BE HELD IN WASHINGTON.

If the constitutional convention should be finally decided upon, it would, of course, be held in Washington.

In the opinion of Representative De Armond, it would be composed, in part at least, of the ablest men in the land. "It would be," he says, "a very great body of American statesmen and citizens. In his judgment, also, the assembling of such a convention, and the preliminary discussions leading up to it, would be productive of much good in legislation in Congress and in the several State legislatures."

WISER LAWS HIS AIM.

Head of Legislative Reference Body Has Poor Opinion of Lawmakers.

Chicago, Dec. 16.—"Ten per cent of the legislators of this country are willing to be bribed, and half of them don't know for what purpose they were elected," Charles McCarthy, of Madison, Wis., told the City Club, of Chicago.

Mr. McCarthy is head of the legislative reference department of Wisconsin, a bureau created to advise wise laws. He is to propose the adoption of his method by the next Illinois assembly.

BURNING STEAMER IS SUNK.

Hull Allowed to Fill with Water to Put Out the Flames.

Kingston, N. Y., Dec. 16.—Fire this morning broke out in the forward end of the boiler-room of the side-wheel steamer Norwich, of the Cornell Towing Line, while at a dock here, and considerable damage was done to her before the flames were extinguished. The rear dock was opened and her hull was allowed to fill with water, and she sank at her dock.

WANT NEW JURY SYSTEM.

State's Attorneys of Illinois Will Ask Legislature to Make Changes.

Chicago, Dec. 16.—The correction of capital defects in the Illinois jury system is to be urged by the State's attorneys at the next session of the legislature.

The legislature will also be asked to make jury judges only of fact, leaving the judge to decide problems of law; to allow appeals in habeas corpus cases and decisions to quash indictments, and permitting the correction of faulty indictments.

Oceana Steamships.

New York, N. Y., Dec. 16.—Arrived, Sunday, December 16: Steamship Minneapolis from London, December 15; St. Andrew from Antwerp, December 15; Hannover from Bremen, December 15.

WOULD BE HELD IN WASHINGTON.

If the constitutional convention should be finally decided upon, it would, of course, be held in Washington.

In the opinion of Representative De Armond, it would be composed, in part at least, of the ablest men in the land. "It would be," he says, "a very great body of American statesmen and citizens. In his judgment, also, the assembling of such a convention, and the preliminary discussions leading up to it, would be productive of much good in legislation in Congress and in the several State legislatures."

WISER LAWS HIS AIM.

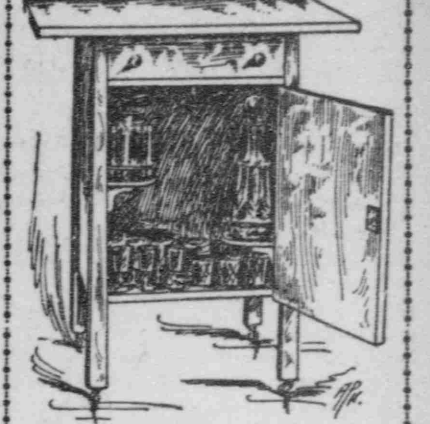
Head of Legislative Reference Body Has Poor Opinion of Lawmakers.

Chicago, Dec. 16.—"Ten per cent of the legislators of this country are willing to be bribed, and half of them don't know for what purpose they were elected," Charles McCarthy, of Madison, Wis., told the City Club, of Chicago.

Mr. McCarthy is head of the legislative reference department of Wisconsin, a bureau created to advise wise laws. He is to propose the adoption of his method by the next Illinois assembly.

XMAS GIFTS

We will store anything you buy for Xmas, and will positively deliver it when and where you want it. No delays.



"Den" Cabinets of Craftsman Make

The display of Craftsman Furniture includes some of the most attractive "Den" cabinets. They suggest gifts for men. Well-built cabinets, as useful as they are attractive.

A showing of Craftsman Furniture, Fabrics, and Metal Work that should interest gift seekers.

W. B. MOSES & SONS, (Inc.)

F Street, Cor. 11th.

A clean, well appointed cafe

where good food and good service can always be had.

The finest Steamed Oysters to be had in the city. Lunch for business men daily from 12 to 2 p. m. Reasonable prices.

SANITARY OYSTER HOUSE, 1422 Penna. Avenue.

EDWARD M. COLFORD, Prop. 'Phone M. 2141

YOUR BANK ACCOUNT

—whether small or large, business or personal, will be appreciated here.

Absolute safety, every possible banking facility, and 3 per cent interest are among the inducements we offer you to become identified with this bank.

COMMERCIAL ACCOUNTS INVITED.

MERCHANTS & MECHANICS

Savings Bank, Cor. 7th and 8th Streets

SPECIAL NOTICES.

PHARMACISTS' ATTENTION IS INVITED to the following extract from the recently enacted pharmacy law: Sec. 2. Under every person now registered as a pharmacist in the District of Columbia, under an act to regulate the practice of pharmacy in the District of Columbia, approved June 15, 1878, shall be entitled to be licensed under this act without examination or payment of fee, provided that he make application therefor on or before the first day of December next ensuing after the passage of this act.

GEO. C. OBER, M. D., Secretary Board of Supervisors in Medicine and Pharmacy.

THE F. G. SMITH PIANO COMPANY.

of 1225 Pennsylvania ave., announces that the CONFERENCE held during the EXHIBITION at Convention Hall, Dec. 3 to 15, was decided Saturday evening, and the \$200 WEBSTER PIANO was won by Mr. JOHN E. BOWEN, of 191 Eye street, who deposited certificate No. 1272.

THE TELEPHONE DIRECTORY PUBLISHING A. Frey, Jr., representing Sardo & Co., is a gross misrepresentation.

I am not in any shape or manner representing Sardo & Co. On the contrary, I am engaged in the undertaking business for myself, with my brother, and have been for the past six years, under the firm name of Frey, Bro.,